

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MICHAEL J. ORTMANN, Individually and on
Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

AURINIA PHARMACEUTICALS INC.,
PETER GREENLEAF, and JOSEPH MILLER,

Defendants.

Case No.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Plaintiff Michael J. Ortmann (“Plaintiff”), individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, by Plaintiff’s undersigned attorneys, for Plaintiff’s complaint against Defendants, alleges the following based upon personal knowledge as to Plaintiff and Plaintiff’s own acts, and information and belief as to all other matters, based upon, *inter alia*, the investigation conducted by and through Plaintiff’s attorneys, which included, among other things, a review of the Defendants’ public documents, conference calls and announcements made by Defendants, United States (“U.S.”) Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) filings, wire and press releases published by and regarding Aurinia Pharmaceuticals Inc. (“Aurinia” or the “Company”), analysts’ reports and advisories about the Company, and information readily obtainable on the Internet. Plaintiff believes that substantial, additional evidentiary support will exist for the allegations set forth herein after a reasonable opportunity for discovery.

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is a federal securities class action on behalf of a class consisting of all persons and entities other than Defendants that purchased or otherwise acquired Aurinia securities between May 7, 2021 and February 25, 2022, both dates inclusive (the “Class Period”), seeking to recover

damages caused by Defendants' violations of the federal securities laws and to pursue remedies under Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder, against the Company and certain of its top officials.

2. Aurinia is a biopharmaceutical company that develops and commercializes therapies to treat various diseases with unmet medical need in Japan and the People's Republic of China ("China"). The Company's only product is LUPKYNIS, which it offers for the treatment of adult patients with active lupus nephritis.

3. Throughout the Class Period, Defendants made materially false and misleading statements regarding the Company's business, operations, and compliance policies. Specifically, Defendants made false and/or misleading statements and/or failed to disclose that: (i) Aurinia was experiencing declining revenues; (ii) Aurinia's 2022 sales outlook for LUPKYNIS would fall well short of expectations; (iii) accordingly, the Company had significantly overstated LUPKYNIS's commercial prospects; (iv) as a result, the Company had overstated its financial position and/or prospects for 2022; and (v) as a result, the Company's public statements were materially false and misleading at all relevant times.

4. On February 28, 2022, Aurinia issued a press release announcing its financial results for the quarter and full year ended December 31, 2021. Among other items, Aurinia reported a year-over-year revenue decline and announced a lower-than-expected sales outlook for 2022.

5. On this news, Aurinia's common share price fell \$3.94 per share, or 24.26%, to close at \$12.30 per share on February 28, 2022.

6. As a result of Defendants' wrongful acts and omissions, and the precipitous decline in the market value of the Company's securities, Plaintiff and other Class members have suffered significant losses and damages.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

7. The claims asserted herein arise under and pursuant to Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 78j(b) and 78t(a)) and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder by the SEC (17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5).

8. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and Section 27 of the Exchange Act.

9. Venue is proper in this Judicial District pursuant to Section 27 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. § 78aa) and 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b). Pursuant to Aurinia's most recently filed annual report, as of February 25, 2022, there were 141,653,780 of the Company's common shares outstanding. Aurinia's securities trade on the Nasdaq Global Market ("NASDAQ"). Accordingly, there are presumably hundreds, if not thousands, of investors in Aurinia securities that reside in the U.S., some of whom undoubtedly reside in this Judicial District.

10. In connection with the acts alleged in this complaint, Defendants, directly or indirectly, used the means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce, including, but not limited to, the mails, interstate telephone communications, and the facilities of the national securities markets.

PARTIES

11. Plaintiff, as set forth in the attached Certification, acquired the Company's securities at artificially inflated prices during the Class Period and was damaged upon the revelation of the alleged corrective disclosures.

12. Defendant Aurinia is incorporated under the laws of Alberta, Canada, with principal executive offices located at #1203-4464 Markham Street, Victoria, British Columbia V8Z 7X8, Canada. The Company's common shares trade in an efficient market on the NASDAQ under the trading symbol "AUPH".

13. Defendant Peter Greenleaf ("Greenleaf") has served as Aurinia's Chief Executive Officer at all relevant times.

14. Defendant Joseph Miller ("Miller") has served as Aurinia's Chief Financial Officer at all relevant times.

15. Defendants Greenleaf and Miller are sometimes referred to herein as the "Individual Defendants."

16. The Individual Defendants possessed the power and authority to control the contents of Aurinia's SEC filings, press releases, and other market communications. The Individual Defendants were provided with copies of Aurinia's SEC filings and press releases alleged herein to be misleading prior to or shortly after their issuance and had the ability and opportunity to prevent their issuance or to cause them to be corrected. Because of their positions with Aurinia, and their access to material information available to them but not to the public, the Individual Defendants knew that the adverse facts specified herein had not been disclosed to and were being concealed from the public, and that the positive representations being made were then materially false and misleading. The Individual Defendants are liable for the false statements and omissions pleaded herein.

17. Aurinia and the Individual Defendants are collectively referred to herein as "Defendants."

SUBSTANTIVE ALLEGATIONS

Background

18. Aurinia is a biopharmaceutical company that develops and commercializes therapies to treat various diseases with unmet medical need in Japan and China. The Company's only product is LUPKYNIS, which it offers for the treatment of adult patients with active lupus nephritis.

Materially False and Misleading Statements Issued During the Class Period

19. The Class Period begins on May 7, 2021, the day after Aurinia issued a press release reporting the Company's first quarter 2021 financial results and recent operational highlights. That press release quoted Defendant Greenleaf, who stated, in relevant part:

2021 started with the FDA approval of LUPKYNIS, the first FDA-approved oral treatment for active lupus nephritis – a devastating complication of lupus Our pivotal decision and work to build a world-class commercial infrastructure prior to approval ultimately led to Aurinia being able to make LUPKYNIS immediately available to patients and physicians following approval. Since that time, the Aurinia team has been encouraged by the feedback we are receiving from physicians and patients and our confidence has only grown as we continue to understand the tremendous need and value of LUPKYNIS, and work to accelerate broader adoption across the underserved LN population.

20. In connection with the release of the Company's first quarter 2021 financial results, Aurinia hosted an earnings call with investors and analysts after the market closed on May 6, 2021 (the "Q1 2021 Earnings Call"). During the scripted portion of the Q1 2021 Earnings Call, Defendant Greenleaf stated, in relevant part:

So with respect to LUPKYNIS launch, as you all know by now, we were granted FDA approval around the end of January. And once we had the approval in hand, we got to work getting the therapy to patients. Max Colao is here today and he will provide with more specifics in a few minutes. But in short, we are executing the plan and I have a great deal of confidence in the team and in the trends that we are currently seeing during the first quarter and into second quarter.

We ended the first quarter with two months of hard data, which included 257 patients start forms and a solid albeit early conversion rate. These trends continue and have grown into the early part of Q2. Things are off to a good start and just like any novel drug launch, the back half of the year is going to be that much more important. As mentioned by one of our sell side analyst notes, most launches only realize a small percentage, give or take less than 5% or so, of first year sales in their initial launch quarter. We had just 60 days. So when you look at this metric, we believe that we are right on trends and currently pointing in the right direction.

[O]n the financial front, we ended the first quarter with just over \$360 million which will support us and our efforts well into 2023. So we have a strong balance sheet to support our ongoing activities.

21. On August 5, 2021, Aurinia issued a press release reporting the Company's second quarter and six months 2021 financial results and recent operational highlights. That press release stated, in relevant part:

"Aurinia continues to make progress toward transforming the treatment of lupus nephritis (LN) by improving access to treatment and providing disease education and care for the long underserved LN patient community," said Peter Greenleaf, President and Chief Executive Officer of Aurinia. "Our second quarter results demonstrate our momentum as COVID-related restrictions are loosened in parts of the United States with a significant increase in both revenue and patient start forms. We are confident that with this year-to-date performance and a strong balance sheet, that we are well-poised for growth as we continue our work to expand the treatment of LN and seek new opportunities that could address the needs of patients with serious autoimmune disorders."

Mr. Greenleaf further stated, "As we continue to expand patient access to LUPKYNIS across the United States, we anticipate that annual net revenue for LUPKYNIS will be in the range of \$40 to \$50 million for 2021, setting Aurinia up for a very strong 2022 as we recognize the benefit of patients continuing on therapy and hopefully achieving reductions in their proteinuria."

Total revenue was \$6.6 million and \$29 thousand for the quarters ended June 30, 2021 and June 30, 2020, respectively. Total revenue was \$7.5 million and \$59 thousand for the six months ended June 30, 2021 and June 30, 2020, respectively. The increase for both periods was primarily the result of the commercial sales of LUPKYNIS following FDA approval in January 2021.

22. That same day, Aurinia hosted an earnings call with investors and analysts to discuss the Company's Q2 2021 results (the "Q2 2021 Earnings Call"). During the scripted portion of the Q2 2021 Earnings Call, Defendant Greenleaf stated, in relevant part:

[L]et me walk you through our revenue performance for the quarter and provide some context because there is a positive message here as well. In Q2, we generated \$6.6 million in net sales. This number exceeded consensus expectations for the quarter and shows the type of ramp we have expected with the new drug and an indication that did not historically have an FDA-approved treatment. We believe this in combination with the prevailing wins of the COVID environment is a significant result.

23. On November 3, 2021, Aurinia issued a press release reporting the Company's third quarter and nine months 2021 financial results and Company updates. That press release stated, in relevant part:

Aurinia achieved third quarter revenue of \$14.7 million, with nine months ended September 30, 2021 revenue of \$22.2 million and maintains its previously stated annual revenue estimate in the range of \$40 to \$50 million for 2021.

"We are very pleased with Q3 results as we continue to execute on our LUPKYNIS commercialization strategies," said Peter Greenleaf, President and Chief Executive Officer of Aurinia. "Despite the challenge of the COVID-19 Delta variant and a slight seasonal slowdown, we saw steady increases in patient start forms and patients on treatment toward the end of the quarter and continue to see this upward momentum through October."

"Data presentations at key medical meetings this week, including additional interim results from the AURORA 2 continuation study, will help bolster awareness of and confidence in the efficacy and safety of LUPKYNIS and we expect final results of the continuation study to be announced by the end of 2021," Greenleaf added.

"Finally, while our commercial team focused on increasing adoption of LUPKYNIS, Aurinia recently added two exciting preclinical assets – AUR200 and AUR300," said Greenleaf. "We are eager to leverage our expertise and capabilities to advance these compounds for the treatment of rare autoimmune diseases with high unmet needs."

24. That same day, Aurinia hosted an earnings call with investors and analysts to discuss the Company's Q3 2021 results (the "Q3 2021 Earnings Call"). During the scripted portion of the Q3 2021 Earnings Call, Defendant Greenleaf stated, in relevant part:

So let's start with our business performance related to the launch starting first with the quarter. In Q3, we generated \$14.7 million in net sales, which exceeded analyst expectations and represents 122% increase over the prior quarter. Since the launch in late January, our total recognized revenue is \$22.2 million. Based on our current metrics and anticipated year end results, we maintain our guidance in the range of \$40 million to \$50 million for 2021. In the third quarter, we added 412 patients, new patient star forms while COVID-19 challenges with the Delta variant and Southern states impacted per PSF prescribing early in the summer, it should be noted that we saw a steady increase in prescribing rates throughout September and continuing into October.

Just over nine months post launch, we're not slowing down. Our team continues to work tirelessly to educate professional in both professional and patient audience about LUPKYNIS and the urgent need to diagnose and treat lupus nephritis patients as quickly as possible. The most recent healthcare provider market research shows that LUPKYNIS awareness has increased significantly with both rheumatologists and nephrologists, and is on par with the competition, which by the way this competition has been on the market for over 10 years. LUPKYNIS is remarkable clinical results continue to differentiate our product and bolster this awareness and confidence in prescribing.

25. On February 16, 2022, Aurinia attended the Annual Leerink SVB Global Healthcare Conference. At the conference, when asked a question regarding the Company's year-over-year sales trajectory, Defendant Greenleaf noted that "aggressive numbers will come from us," and further stated, "[w]e want to come and show numbers that we think we can achieve, but at the same time that I'm sure we have a lot of ambition as to how we want to grow the business[.]"

26. The statements referenced in ¶¶ 19-25 were materially false and misleading because Defendants made false and/or misleading statements, as well as failed to disclose material adverse facts about the Company's business, operations, and compliance policies. Specifically, Defendants made false and/or misleading statements and/or failed to disclose that: (i) Aurinia was

experiencing declining revenues; (ii) Aurinia's 2022 sales outlook for LUPKYNIS would fall well short of expectations; (iii) accordingly, the Company had significantly overstated LUPKYNIS's commercial prospects; (iv) as a result, the Company had overstated its financial position and/or prospects for 2022; and (v) as a result, the Company's public statements were materially false and misleading at all relevant times.

The Truth Emerges

27. On February 28, 2022, Aurinia issued a press release announcing its financial results for the quarter and full year ended December 31, 2021. The press release stated, in relevant part:

For fiscal year 2022, the Company is providing net revenue guidance of ***\$115 to \$135 million from sales of LUPKYNIS.***

Financial Results for the Quarter and Year Ended December 31, 2021

Total net revenue was \$23.4 million and \$50.0 million for the quarters ended December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020, respectively. ***Total net revenue was \$45.6 million and \$50.1 million for the years ended December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020, respectively.*** The net revenue for the quarter ended and year ended December 31, 2021, primarily consisted of commercial sales of LUPKYNIS, following FDA approval in January of 2021. Total revenue for the quarter and year ended December 31, 2020, was primarily due to an upfront payment from Otsuka of \$50.0 million resulting from entering into its collaboration agreement with Otsuka.

(Emphasis added.)

28. That same day, market analyst *The Motley Fool* published an article entitled, "Why Aurinia Pharmaceuticals Stock Is Crashing Today." That article provided, in relevant part:

Aurinia's shares plunged in early morning action today in response to the release of its 2021 fourth-quarter and full-year earnings report. Although net revenue from the company's oral lupus nephritis medication, Lupkynis, jumped by 60% during the three-month period relative the third quarter of 2021, Aurinia's 2022 annual revenue guidance of between \$115 million and \$135 million fell well short of

expectations. *Wall Street, for its part, was expecting the midway point of the company's 2022 revenue forecast to come in at around \$178 million.*

Another key issue weighing on the drugmaker's shares today are recent comments by President and CEO Peter Greenleaf. During a fireside chat at the SVB Leerink 2022 Global Healthcare Conference earlier this month, Greenleaf said investors can expect "aggressive numbers" when the company rolls out its 2022 annual revenue guidance at the end of the month. *This initial financial forecast, however, doesn't exactly jump off the page as aggressive. Wall Street, in fact, was calling for a figure that was 24% higher than Aurinia's top-end estimate.*

(Emphasis added.)

29. On this news, Aurinia's common share price fell \$3.94 per share, or 24.26%, to close at \$12.30 per share on February 28, 2022.

30. As a result of Defendants' wrongful acts and omissions, and the precipitous decline in the market value of the Company's securities, Plaintiff and other Class members have suffered significant losses and damages.

PLAINTIFF'S CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

31. Plaintiff brings this action as a class action pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a) and (b)(3) on behalf of a Class, consisting of all those who purchased or otherwise acquired Aurinia securities during the Class Period (the "Class"); and were damaged upon the revelation of the alleged corrective disclosures. Excluded from the Class are Defendants herein, the officers and directors of the Company, at all relevant times, members of their immediate families and their legal representatives, heirs, successors or assigns and any entity in which Defendants have or had a controlling interest.

32. The members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. Throughout the Class Period, Aurinia securities were actively traded on the NASDAQ. While the exact number of Class members is unknown to Plaintiff at this time and can

be ascertained only through appropriate discovery, Plaintiff believes that there are hundreds or thousands of members in the proposed Class. Record owners and other members of the Class may be identified from records maintained by Aurinia or its transfer agent and may be notified of the pendency of this action by mail, using the form of notice similar to that customarily used in securities class actions.

33. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class as all members of the Class are similarly affected by Defendants' wrongful conduct in violation of federal law that is complained of herein.

34. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of the Class and has retained counsel competent and experienced in class and securities litigation. Plaintiff has no interests antagonistic to or in conflict with those of the Class.

35. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class and predominate over any questions solely affecting individual members of the Class. Among the questions of law and fact common to the Class are:

- whether the federal securities laws were violated by Defendants' acts as alleged herein;
- whether statements made by Defendants to the investing public during the Class Period misrepresented material facts about the business, operations and management of Aurinia;
- whether the Individual Defendants caused Aurinia to issue false and misleading financial statements during the Class Period;
- whether Defendants acted knowingly or recklessly in issuing false and misleading financial statements;
- whether the prices of Aurinia securities during the Class Period were artificially inflated because of the Defendants' conduct complained of herein; and
- whether the members of the Class have sustained damages and, if so, what is the proper measure of damages.

36. A class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy since joinder of all members is impracticable. Furthermore, as the damages suffered by individual Class members may be relatively small, the expense and burden of individual litigation make it impossible for members of the Class to individually redress the wrongs done to them. There will be no difficulty in the management of this action as a class action.

37. Plaintiff will rely, in part, upon the presumption of reliance established by the fraud-on-the-market doctrine in that:

- Defendants made public misrepresentations or failed to disclose material facts during the Class Period;
- the omissions and misrepresentations were material;
- Aurinia securities are traded in an efficient market;
- the Company's shares were liquid and traded with moderate to heavy volume during the Class Period;
- the Company traded on the NASDAQ and was covered by multiple analysts;
- the misrepresentations and omissions alleged would tend to induce a reasonable investor to misjudge the value of the Company's securities; and
- Plaintiff and members of the Class purchased, acquired and/or sold Aurinia securities between the time the Defendants failed to disclose or misrepresented material facts and the time the true facts were disclosed, without knowledge of the omitted or misrepresented facts.

38. Based upon the foregoing, Plaintiff and the members of the Class are entitled to a presumption of reliance upon the integrity of the market.

39. Alternatively, Plaintiff and the members of the Class are entitled to the presumption of reliance established by the Supreme Court in *Affiliated Ute Citizens of the State of Utah v. United States*, 406 U.S. 128, 92 S. Ct. 2430 (1972), as Defendants omitted material information in their Class Period statements in violation of a duty to disclose such information, as detailed above.

COUNT I

(Violations of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 Promulgated Thereunder Against All Defendants)

40. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained above as if fully set forth herein.

41. This Count is asserted against Defendants and is based upon Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b), and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder by the SEC.

42. During the Class Period, Defendants engaged in a plan, scheme, conspiracy and course of conduct, pursuant to which they knowingly or recklessly engaged in acts, transactions, practices and courses of business which operated as a fraud and deceit upon Plaintiff and the other members of the Class; made various untrue statements of material facts and omitted to state material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; and employed devices, schemes and artifices to defraud in connection with the purchase and sale of securities. Such scheme was intended to, and, throughout the Class Period, did: (i) deceive the investing public, including Plaintiff and other Class members, as alleged herein; (ii) artificially inflate and maintain the market price of Aurinia securities; and (iii) cause Plaintiff and other members of the Class to purchase or otherwise acquire Aurinia securities and options at artificially inflated prices. In furtherance of this unlawful scheme, plan and course of conduct, Defendants, and each of them, took the actions set forth herein.

43. Pursuant to the above plan, scheme, conspiracy and course of conduct, each of the Defendants participated directly or indirectly in the preparation and/or issuance of the quarterly and annual reports, SEC filings, press releases and other statements and documents described above, including statements made to securities analysts and the media that were designed to influence the market for Aurinia securities. Such reports, filings, releases and statements were

materially false and misleading in that they failed to disclose material adverse information and misrepresented the truth about Aurinia's finances and business prospects.

44. By virtue of their positions at Aurinia, Defendants had actual knowledge of the materially false and misleading statements and material omissions alleged herein and intended thereby to deceive Plaintiff and the other members of the Class, or, in the alternative, Defendants acted with reckless disregard for the truth in that they failed or refused to ascertain and disclose such facts as would reveal the materially false and misleading nature of the statements made, although such facts were readily available to Defendants. Said acts and omissions of Defendants were committed willfully or with reckless disregard for the truth. In addition, each Defendant knew or recklessly disregarded that material facts were being misrepresented or omitted as described above.

45. Information showing that Defendants acted knowingly or with reckless disregard for the truth is peculiarly within Defendants' knowledge and control. As the senior managers and/or directors of Aurinia, the Individual Defendants had knowledge of the details of Aurinia's internal affairs.

46. The Individual Defendants are liable both directly and indirectly for the wrongs complained of herein. Because of their positions of control and authority, the Individual Defendants were able to and did, directly or indirectly, control the content of the statements of Aurinia. As officers and/or directors of a publicly-held company, the Individual Defendants had a duty to disseminate timely, accurate, and truthful information with respect to Aurinia's businesses, operations, future financial condition and future prospects. As a result of the dissemination of the aforementioned false and misleading reports, releases and public statements, the market price of Aurinia securities was artificially inflated throughout the Class Period. In

ignorance of the adverse facts concerning Aurinia's business and financial condition which were concealed by Defendants, Plaintiff and the other members of the Class purchased or otherwise acquired Aurinia securities at artificially inflated prices and relied upon the price of the securities, the integrity of the market for the securities and/or upon statements disseminated by Defendants, and were damaged thereby.

47. During the Class Period, Aurinia securities were traded on an active and efficient market. Plaintiff and the other members of the Class, relying on the materially false and misleading statements described herein, which the Defendants made, issued or caused to be disseminated, or relying upon the integrity of the market, purchased or otherwise acquired shares of Aurinia securities at prices artificially inflated by Defendants' wrongful conduct. Had Plaintiff and the other members of the Class known the truth, they would not have purchased or otherwise acquired said securities, or would not have purchased or otherwise acquired them at the inflated prices that were paid. At the time of the purchases and/or acquisitions by Plaintiff and the Class, the true value of Aurinia securities was substantially lower than the prices paid by Plaintiff and the other members of the Class. The market price of Aurinia securities declined sharply upon public disclosure of the facts alleged herein to the injury of Plaintiff and Class members.

48. By reason of the conduct alleged herein, Defendants knowingly or recklessly, directly or indirectly, have violated Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder.

49. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff and the other members of the Class suffered damages in connection with their respective purchases, acquisitions and sales of the Company's securities during the Class Period, upon the disclosure

that the Company had been disseminating misrepresented financial statements to the investing public.

COUNT II

(Violations of Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act Against the Individual Defendants)

50. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

51. During the Class Period, the Individual Defendants participated in the operation and management of Aurinia, and conducted and participated, directly and indirectly, in the conduct of Aurinia's business affairs. Because of their senior positions, they knew the adverse non-public information about Aurinia's misstatement of income and expenses and false financial statements.

52. As officers and/or directors of a publicly owned company, the Individual Defendants had a duty to disseminate accurate and truthful information with respect to Aurinia's financial condition and results of operations, and to correct promptly any public statements issued by Aurinia which had become materially false or misleading.

53. Because of their positions of control and authority as senior officers, the Individual Defendants were able to, and did, control the contents of the various reports, press releases and public filings which Aurinia disseminated in the marketplace during the Class Period concerning Aurinia's results of operations. Throughout the Class Period, the Individual Defendants exercised their power and authority to cause Aurinia to engage in the wrongful acts complained of herein. The Individual Defendants, therefore, were "controlling persons" of Aurinia within the meaning of Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act. In this capacity, they participated in the unlawful conduct alleged which artificially inflated the market price of Aurinia securities.

54. Each of the Individual Defendants, therefore, acted as a controlling person of Aurinia. By reason of their senior management positions and/or being directors of Aurinia, each of the Individual Defendants had the power to direct the actions of, and exercised the same to cause, Aurinia to engage in the unlawful acts and conduct complained of herein. Each of the Individual Defendants exercised control over the general operations of Aurinia and possessed the power to control the specific activities which comprise the primary violations about which Plaintiff and the other members of the Class complain.

55. By reason of the above conduct, the Individual Defendants are liable pursuant to Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act for the violations committed by Aurinia.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants as follows:

- A. Determining that the instant action may be maintained as a class action under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and certifying Plaintiff as the Class representative;
- B. Requiring Defendants to pay damages sustained by Plaintiff and the Class by reason of the acts and transactions alleged herein;
- C. Awarding Plaintiff and the other members of the Class prejudgment and post-judgment interest, as well as their reasonable attorneys' fees, expert fees and other costs; and
- D. Awarding such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.

Dated: April 15, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

POMERANTZ LLP

/s/ Jeremy A. Lieberman

Jeremy A. Lieberman

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**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT
TO FEDERAL SECURITIES LAWS**

1. I, Michael J. Ortman, make this declaration pursuant to Section 27(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act") and/or Section 21D(a)(2) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") as amended by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

2. I have reviewed a Complaint against Aurinia Pharmaceuticals Inc. ("Aurinia" or the "Company") and authorize the filing of a comparable complaint on my behalf.

3. I did not purchase or acquire Aurinia securities at the direction of plaintiffs' counsel or in order to participate in any private action arising under the Securities Act or Exchange Act.

4. I am willing to serve as a representative party on behalf of a Class of investors who purchased or otherwise acquired Aurinia securities during the class period, including providing testimony at deposition and trial, if necessary. I understand that the Court has the authority to select the most adequate lead plaintiff in this action.

5. The attached sheet lists all of my transactions in Aurinia securities during the Class Period as specified in the Complaint.

6. During the three-year period preceding the date on which this Certification is signed, I have not served or sought to serve as a representative party on behalf of a class under the federal securities laws.

7. I agree not to accept any payment for serving as a representative party on behalf of the class as set forth in the Complaint, beyond my pro rata share of any recovery, except such reasonable costs and expenses directly relating to the representation of the class as ordered or approved by the Court.

8. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed 3-17-2022
(Date)

Michael J. Ortman
(Signature)

Michael J. Ortman
(Type or Print Name)

Aurinia Pharmaceuticals Inc. (AUPH)

Ortmann, Michael J.

List of Purchases and Sales

Transaction Type	Date	Number of Shares/Unit	Price Per Share/Unit
Purchase	10/26/2021	100	\$29.8500
Purchase	10/28/2021	50	\$31.4150
Purchase	11/19/2021	100	\$29.3400
Purchase	12/14/2021	10	\$18.2000
Purchase	12/14/2021	10	\$18.0500
Purchase	1/10/2022	20	\$18.1372
Purchase	1/13/2022	200	\$18.0965
Purchase	1/20/2022	100	\$18.9600
Purchase	2/16/2022	100	\$19.8500
Sale	10/29/2021	(50)	\$31.7400
Sale	1/13/2022	(200)	\$18.3400